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J. T. JOHNSON TO BE FEDERAL JUDGE

To Preside Over Sessions
of New District

INTEREST AROUSED
OVER SUCCESSOR

Upon the Passage of the Bill Providing for Western District of South Carolina Johnson is Recommended for the Judgeship. Appointment Almost Certain.

BROADUS KNIGHT FAVORED ONE.

It is understood that J. Broadus Knight, who has been secretary to Senator B. T. Tillman, will be appointed clerk of the federal court of the western district. This is a splendid position and there were quite a number who had lines out for it. It is reported, however, that the position will be given to Mr. Knight.

Latest reports from Washington declare that Congressman Johnson has not been appointed to the judgeship of the newly provided western district of South Carolina, but that it is a foregone conclusion that his nomination by the South Carolina delegation will be confirmed. How long before the appointment will be made and when he will actually begin his duties is as yet uncertain. He has not yet resigned his seat in Congress, so the matter of the election to fill the vacancy has not been settled upon.

The question of the successor to Mr. Johnson is attracting much attention as is also that of the appointment of a clerk of court. The Clerk will have to be appointed by the judge himself. Prominently mentioned as probable candidates to succeed Mr. Johnson are B. A. Morgan, of Greenville, I. C. Blackwood, I. M. Philifer and S. J. Nicholls, of Spartanburg, T. C. Duncan, of Union, and W. C. Irby, of this city. Mr. Irby stated yesterday that he had nothing to give out on the matter. Mr. R. A. Cooper, who has been mentioned as a probable candidate, will not be in the race. A local applicant for the clerkship is Mr. E. O. Anderson, now employed in the People's Loan & Exchange Bank.

The following dispatches from Washington deal at length with the new district:

Washington, March 2.—The house bill dividing South Carolina into eastern and western federal judicial districts and providing for the appointment of an additional district judge passed the senate tonight. It now goes to the president. The bill requires the president to make public the names of sponsors for any applicant for appointment.

The present district judge, resident in eastern South Carolina is to become judge of that district, but will retain jurisdiction in the western district in cases which already have come before him.

As passed by the house today the bill provides that the court shall be held at regular periods at Greenville, Rock Hill and Greenwood, and the office of the clerk of the court shall be located at Greenville.

As passed today the house bill provides that the Cullum amendment shall be added, this requiring the names of indorsers to be made public.

Congressman Aiken and other members of the delegation who have labored diligently to have this bill pass deserve credit for what they have accomplished.

While Representative Johnson, who first introduced the bill to provide for the separate operation of the eastern and western districts, was in the conference committee on the legislative appropriation bill tonight, the members of the delegation conferred and unanimously agreed to recommend Mr. Johnson for appointment to the new judgeship.

The following statement was later given out:

"After the passage of the court bill by the house and senate the senators and members of the house from South Carolina agreed unanimously to rec-

J. WASH DRUMMOND MEMBER OF BOARD

Gov. Manning Appoints Laurens County Man on Board of Old Soldiers' Home.

Columbia, March 6.—Governor Manning this afternoon appointed the board of the Old Soldiers' Home as follows: H. E. Thompson, of Columbia, a railroad engineer; F. E. Welsh, of Charleston, a Confederate Veteran; J. Wash Drummond, a farmer, of Laurens county. The other two members of the board are Senator G. K. Laney, of Chesterfield, and Representative T. M. Lyles, of Spartanburg, chairman of the military committees of the Senate and House, respectively.

The appointments were made under a bill passed at the recent session of the general assembly providing for a reorganization of the Old Soldiers' Home and stipulating that it should be managed by a board of five, three of whom were to be appointed by the Governor and the other two to be ex-officio members, namely, the chairmen of the military committees of the Senate and House, respectively.

The superintendent of the Home will be elected by the board. The present superintendent is Major H. W. Richardson, of Columbia.

Lantern Slides of Orphanage.

Rev. J. B. Branch, of Clinton, delivered an interesting lecture at the Presbyterian church Sunday night. His lecture was accompanied by illustrated lantern slides of the Thornehill Orphanage, showing the buildings and scenes around the campus. The lecture was greatly enjoyed, especially by those who had not visited the orphanage in recent years and who were not entirely familiar with the great plant there and the scope of its work. Of particular significance was one slide showing a group picture of the printing class about seventeen years ago. Of the entire class of about fifteen members, selected indiscriminately from a large number of group pictures, Mr. Branch pointed out that every surviving member is successfully engaged in some honorable occupation, several being preachers, one a physician and nearly all actively interested in church work.

Recommend to the president for appointment as judge of the new district, Congressman Joseph T. Johnson, of Spartanburg. They also unanimously agreed to recommend Hon. J. William Thurmond, of Edgefield, for district attorney and C. J. Lyon of Abbeville for marshal. While no official statement has been made, it is understood that the president will approve the recommendation of the delegation.

Difficult to Put Through.

Washington, March 5.—With the visit of members of the South Carolina delegation in congress to the White House today at which time they discussed with the president the nomination of Congressman J. T. Johnson of Spartanburg to be the federal judge, Charles J. Lyon to be marshal and J. William Thurmond to be attorney for the western district of South Carolina, only one question remains unsettled (the time when these appointments will be made. It was settled that there would be no hitch in the matter and it was the understanding of those who saw the president that he would name those new court officials some time within the next few days.

The greatest interest here now centres in who the successor to Congressman Johnson will be. Immediately upon his nomination as judge he will resign his position of representative of the Fourth district and the governor of South Carolina will be duly informed of such action.

It has developed since the bill creating these new court officers passed that Congressman Byrnes, Aiken and others had a most difficult time in putting it through and that but for the influence which they were able to exert in the last hours of congress the bill would never have succeeded. Several times it appeared as if it was beyond hope but fighting on they were finally victorious.

New Millinery Arriving.

Minter Company has announced that they will have no formal millinery opening this year. Their new spring hats are arriving daily and are placed on sale at once.

SHALL THE WOMEN VOTE?

This Momentous Question to be Settled at the School Auditorium Friday Night.

"Shall the femi-nines vote in S. C." will be the theme of a epoch-marking debate at the graded school auditorium Friday night, when two champions of women's rights will meet a like number of "the enemy" in a verbal combat on woman suffrage. Judging from reports leaking out from the camps of the respective principals, the flights of oratory are to be likened to those of old Greece, when Demosthenes and his worthy cohorts practiced on the sands of the sea to perfect themselves against the wordy flights of their able foes. Women will be subjects of the debate and not participants, so it is hardly expected that it will continue past the midnight hour, it being laid down in the rules already promulgated that the judges will have the right to call for the sponge in case any enthusiastic orator exceeds the time limit.

Much secrecy obtains as to the "arguments" which the speakers are going to lay out before the spell-bound auditors, but according to the confident air which they all are reported to have assumed in the past few days, it is fully expected that each side has got about a peck of sock-dollars with which to silence their unsuspecting opponents. At least, it has been said, that the opponents of women suffrage have got some real arguments this time and that old Mr. Hot Air is going to play but a minor role.

Fun? Yes, indeed! It's a serious question, but they are going to put the humour into it. If they don't do it intentionally, it's going to be there anyway, so be on hand to enjoy the evening.

The affirmative side will be taken by J. M. Powell, principal of the Watts Mills school, and J. D. Robison, principal of the Ora school. J. H. Sullivan county superintendent of education, and R. T. Wilson, principal of the Gray Court-Owings school, will uphold the negative.

The admission charges will be 15 and 25 cents. The battle begins at 8 o'clock. Women are requested to leave hat-pins at home.

At Barksdale School.

On Friday evening March 12, the comedy "Our Awful Aunt" will be presented at Barksdale school house. Other amusements have been arranged to take place after the presentation of the play. The performance will begin promptly at eight o'clock. Admission will be 10 and 15 cents. \$5 laughs in 40 minutes.

Wadsworth Fund Election.

S. H. Goggans, R. A. Austin, M. M. Teague, J. J. Young and A. R. Holmes were re-elected trustees of the Wadsworth school fund in the election held at Cross Hill for the purpose last Wednesday. No other names were put forward for election, so these were re-elected without opposition. Rev. A. R. Holmes is secretary of the board.

Beautifying Interior.

The congregation of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian church of this city, which built a pretty new church some time ago, has added to the beauty of the interior by laying a handsome new carpet. The carpet is of strong texture and pleasing design. It was purchased from Messrs. S. M. & E. H. Wilkes & Company.

To Attend Educational Meetings.

The following paragraph taken from a Cookeville (Tenn.) paper will be of interest to the numerous friends of Mrs. Lucas here:

Mrs. Cora Cox Lucas has returned from a visit to Nashville and Spring Hill, her son Robert, being in Branham & Hughes school at the latter place. Mrs. Lucas will be with Mrs. John Epperson at Algood until April, when she will attend the Southern Writer's League at Chattanooga where she will give some of the musical numbers of the program. Later she will go to Muckogee, Okla., to attend the Southern Educational Congress, where she has been asked to represent South Carolina, and also to read a paper on music as an educational factor.

Opens Dress-Making Establishment.

Mrs. B. K. Humphries and Miss Rose Hudgens have opened a dress-making establishment in the front part of the store of the Leverett Furniture Company. Ladies are invited to call and see them there.

ACKNOWLEDGES FUND.

Belgian Relief Committee Express Appreciation of Local Aid.

Mrs. C. R. Moseley, who with other ladies collected a milk fund for the Belgian babies, has received the following letter of acknowledgment from the national secretary:

71 Broadway, New York, Feb. 15, 1915.

Mrs. C. R. Moseley,
Laurens, S. C.

Dear Madam:

We have the honor to acknowledge receipt of letter signed by the chairman of the Belgian Relief Committee of your city, dated February 10th, in which we are advised of the generous donations made by the women of our town.

We wish to extend to you our sincere appreciation for your efforts in our behalf and can assure you that there is a great need for these useful articles which you have so kindly given. It is such contributions as made by your honored committee that has aided us in carrying on the largest commissary undertaking the world has ever known.

The unfortunate people of Belgium are now at the threshold of starvation and words cannot describe the appalling conditions prevailing. It is, therefore, imperative that they receive aid and it is gratifying to us to know that the whole-hearted individuals of America are responding to this appeal most generously.

We wish to express through this medium our sincere appreciation of the good work done by your committee and can assure you that this milk will be distributed to the suffering and most needy of those civilians in Belgium.

We are advised that your gift is now in the possession of our agent, the Carolina Company, at Charleston, S. C., and will go forward on the S. C. "St. Helena" which will leave within ten days.

Again thanking you for your generosity and assuring you of the Belgians' gratitude, we are,

Yours very truly,

R. D. McCarter,
Hon. Secretary.

Col. P. J. Counts Dead.

Mr. D. H. Counts was called to Florence Wednesday morning on account of the death of his father, Col. P. J. Counts, which took place there that morning at the home of his daughter. The body was carried to Bamberg, the old home of the deceased, the following day where the interment took place. Col. Counts was for many years a prominent member of the Bamberg bar and a leading citizen of that section. The friends of Mr. Counts here sympathize with him in his bereavement.

MEETING OF LADIES TODAY.

Ladies of Town and County Will Meet in Interest of Belgians.

This afternoon at 4 o'clock in the First Presbyterian church the ladies of the town and county will meet to complete an organization for continuing the relief work in Belgium. It is hoped that a large crowd will be present as the meeting is important.

This meeting is the result of the meeting held last Sunday afternoon when Mrs. Evans of Florence addressed the ladies of Laurens on the subject of Belgian Relief. In her talk, which was most interesting and instructive, Mrs. Evans stressed the importance of continuing the work, showing how the need for relief is greater now than it was ever before. She is making these addresses in different parts of the state, as the personal representative of the National Committee from South Carolina on the Belgian Commission, Mr. Ravenel of Charleston.

T. L. Johnson Dead.

Mr. T. L. Johnson, a well known citizen of the Shady Grove section of the county, near Clinton, died at his home Saturday and was buried Monday morning. He was 66 years of age and is survived by a wife and four sons. The sons are as follows: Clark and Johnnie, who live at the home place; Sam Johnson, of Nashville, Tenn.; and Hugh Johnson, of Alabama. Mr. Johnson was a highly respected citizen of his community and was greatly admired by all who knew him.

The friends of Miss Julia Irby, who underwent a surgical operation several days ago, will be glad to know that she stood the operation well and is now improving rapidly.

GREENWOOD ROGERS GOES TO THE CHAIR

Supreme Court Affirms the Decision of the Lower Court and Sentence is Passed.

Greenwood Rogers, colored, convicted of arson in connection with murder of the Mr. Geo. W. Young, near Renno, will have to suffer the death penalty for his crime unless Gov. Manning sees fit to commute his sentence, which is not very likely to be the case. Following the decision of the supreme court, handed down last week, affirming the decision of the circuit court in convicting him of arson, Judge Ernest Moore Monday morning carried out the mandate of the law by sentencing him to the electric chair, April 9th is the date set for the execution.

This ends one of the most notorious cases of recent years in this county. It grew out of the murder of Mr. Geo. M. Young, a prominent farmer near Renno, and the subsequent burning of his home over his dead body. Greenwood Rogers, with Junk Caldwell and Tom Young, were implicated in the crime. Greenwood Rogers was first tried and convicted of murder, but was recommended to the mercy of the court. He received a life sentence, Tom Young turning state's evidence and confessing to the horrid details of the crime in which he associated himself, Junk Caldwell and Greenwood Rogers. Rogers was represented in that case by the late John M. Cannon. Not being content with this outcome of the trial, as Rogers seemed to be the ring-leader in the crime, he was indicted by the solicitor and tried for arson, Attorney A. G. Hart being appointed by the court to defend him. In spite of a strenuously conducted defense, the negro was convicted and sentenced to the electric chair. Mr. Hart was thanked and complimented by the court, Judge Sease telling the young attorney that he had done as much as any older attorney could have done and that he had raised every possible point in the prisoner's favor. Mr. Hart appealed the case to the supreme court without avail and then petitioned for a rehearing, which also was overruled. Having exhausted available means of saving the negro's life, he stated to the court Monday that no other efforts would be made in his behalf, as he felt that he had faithfully discharged his duty to the court and to the prisoner. Sentence was thereupon passed by Judge Moore.

Junk Caldwell and Tom Young, who were convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment, are now serving their terms upon the county chain gang.

Skates Off, Please!

A leading merchant of the city, one who does not labor under a cross disposition nor enjoys a reputation for crabbiness, stopped The Advertiser man the other day and asked him to "put a piece in the paper" about children skating in the stores. He said he did not object to the young folks enjoying the pleasures of skating in proper places, not even objecting to them skating on the side-walks, but that it is annoying to clerks and customers alike to have so much noise and general disturbance inside the wooden-floored stores. Not only is it annoying, he said, but it is dangerous, as collisions are liable to take place in the narrow aisles. Ask the mothers, he said, to tell the children to pull their skates off before going into the stores and, further, ask the children to take them off in case their elders forget to warn them. The Advertiser man promised to "write 'em up" and here it is. It is hoped that the mothers and children too will heed to his request.

LAURENS FIRM IS BANKRUPT

An order was Monday issued by Federal Judge Henry A. M. Smith, for the eastern district of South Carolina, appointing C. H. Roper, receiver of the Davis-Roper company, adjudged bankrupt, of this city. Mr. Roper will be required to make an inventory of the stock and submit it to the court. His bond was fixed at \$10,000. The liabilities are not yet known, though they are thought to be quite large. The store was closed to business yesterday.

Mr. J. W. Wells of Gray Court was a visitor in Laurens yesterday.

COURT CONVENED MONDAY MORNING

Judge Ernest Moore of
Lancaster Presiding

MANY PRISONERS
PLEAD GUILTY

Judge Moore Makes an Impressive
Charge to the Grand Jury, Outlining
Their Duties During the Coming

Year. Particular Attention to
Schools and Roads.

The court of general sessions convened Monday morning with Judge Ernest Moore, of Lancaster, presiding and the other officers of the court in their accustomed places. This being the first time that Judge Moore has presided in this county, his commission was read at the opening session by Clerk of Court Power. The grand jury was empanelled and Mr. J. W. Wells, of Gray Court, was appointed foreman by the presiding judge. The court is making rapid progress.

Judge Moore made a forceful and impressive charge to the grand jury, outlining the duties which they are to perform during the coming year. In addition to their recognized duties in connection with their presence at the criminal courts and as overseers of the county's business affairs, he pointed out to them that they should interest themselves in the schools and roads of the county. He laid particular stress upon their duty to co-operate with the trustees of the rural schools and to awaken the people to the need of educating the boys and girls of the county. He criticized the short-sighted policy of paying small salaries to teachers, pointing out that good teachers are drawn elsewhere by the attraction of better salaries. He also scored the practice in some localities of electing teachers on account of their relationship to influential families in the district. Touching upon the question of good roads, he said that the grand jurors should use their influence in securing better roads because of the greater economy of good roads over bad ones. Taking up the different bills handed him by the solicitor he instructed them as to their duty in dealing with them, charging them that they should act upon them fearlessly and impartially.

The petit jury was completed and the court proceeded to the trial of cases.

T. Y. Pitts and Mance Simpson, charged with murder, plead guilty to manslaughter and sentenced to 2 years each.

J. M. Timmons, a rather old white man of Gray Court, charged with housebreaking and larceny in two cases, plead guilty and was given two years.

John Will Smith was charged with house-breaking and larceny, plead guilty and was given two years. Smith is the man who was shot near Gray Court while being arrested and later operated on at the hospital here.

V. A. Ross was charged with failure to support his family. He plead guilty and was given a sentence of one year.

Frank Taylor, charged with violating the dispensary law, plead guilty and was given 3 months or a fine of \$100. The fine was reduced to \$50.00.

Charlie Penland was convicted of assault with intent to kill and given one year.

George Woodruff was convicted of house-breaking and larceny and was given a 2-year sentence.

Casper Harris, charged with assault and battery with intent to kill was found not guilty.

James H. Jennings, charged with seduction, was found guilty. The judge has not yet passed sentence.

The case of Charles Chapple, charged with housebreaking and larceny, was in the hands of the jury when The Advertiser went to press.

Mrs. Ann Adair.

Mrs. Ann Adair died at her home in Clinton Thursday and was buried at Sardis church Friday afternoon, quite a number of people attending the services. Mrs. Adair was the widow of the late I. J. Adair and was widely connected. She was a conscientious Christian woman, greatly beloved by those who knew her. She is survived by three sons and one daughter.